

## The Problem

Valeo Service warranty department receive a high number of clutches being returned for a warranty claim that exhibit damaged or bent drive straps. This is not a manufacturing defect. A bent, damaged or separated drive strap is the result of the clutch being dropped or mishandled, so care should be adopted when handling and transporting clutches to minimise the potential for damage to occur. This will result in the pressure plate of the clutch cover assembly not obtaining full lift, which in turn will result in the clutch plate to drag.

## Inspection and what to look out for

Fitting a clutch with a damaged, bent or separated drive strap will only result in the workshop having to carry out the work a second time. A simple visual inspection of the clutch components, especially the cover assembly, will highlight any damage to the drive straps, and ensure the drive straps conform to manufacturing specification.

*Image illustrating how the drive strap should appear.*



Note:-the strips that make up the drive strap should be tightly packed together, with no kinks or bends, which should be consistent on all drive straps. Proceed with fitment.

*Image illustrating a separation on the drive strap*



A separation on the drive strap will result in reduced pressure plate lift in this area of the cover, which may result in gear selection difficulties. Do not proceed with fitment.

*Image illustrating damage to drive strap.*



A severe distortion or bend in the drive strap will result in complete loss of pressure plate lift in this area of the cover. This can cause severe gear selection problems. Do not proceed with fitment.

A clutch cover assembly drive strap that displays severe non conformity i.e. a bend or kink, will not function correctly, and should not be fitted. Selection of first and reverse gear will be greatly compromised, with the only rectification being to replace the clutch kit. We strongly advise that the clutch kit is inspected with particular attention being made to the cover assembly drive straps.

Valeo Service will not be held responsible for clutches that have been fitted that clearly display drive strap damage, or any damage to the cover caused by the product being dropped, as all products should be checked for damage and comparison before fitting.

**T.S.B. No.:**  
**CL004 08**

**PRODUCT:**  
**Car Clutch**

**MARQUE:**  
**All Makes**

**MODEL:**

**PART No.:**  
**All Clutches**

**SUBJECT:**  
**Fitting clutches with bent straps**

**DATE:**  
**April 2008**